

### REMARKS

Applicants have elected to file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 instead of requesting reinstatement of the appeal.

In request to the clarifications sought by the Board, Applicants clarify that claim 40 is now canceled and the version of claim 22 in the present Amendment is the version in the Amendment of November 5, 2002, further amended by the present Amendment.

The amendment of claim 22 is fully supported by the disclosure on page 16, starting at line 15, which states that the thermosetting resin is preferably diluted with solvent of which at least 80% is a solvent incompatible with the binder.

Claims 22-28, 40, 43 and 44 were rejected as being obvious over Kishi in view of Homma. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The word “wet process” appears in Kishi at column 15, line 5, but it does not disclose the limitation “wherein at least 80% of said solvent is incompatible with said binder” as recited in claim 22. Also, Homma fails to disclose the limitation “wherein at least 80% of said solvent is incompatible with said binder” as recited in claim 22.

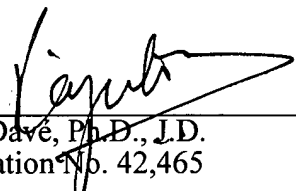
As explained in MPEP 2143, one of the three basic requirements to establish a prima facie of obviousness is that “the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.” In the present case, the cited prior art references *as a whole* fail to disclose or suggest the limitation “wherein at least 80% of said solvent is incompatible with said binder” as recited in claim 22. Thus, the obviousness rejection of claims 22-28, 40, 43 and 44 over Kishi in view of Homma should be withdrawn.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent & Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952**, referencing 360842003400.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 11, 2005

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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